

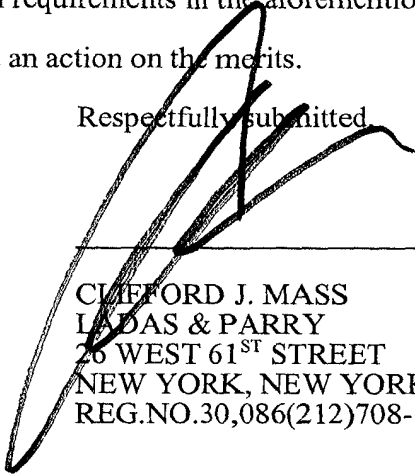
REMARKS

The above amendatory action is taken in response to the Official Communications of May 31, 2001 and August 27, 2001 and places the application into compliance with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.821-1.825.

Applicants submit herewith a computer readable form copy of the Sequence Listing and statement that the computer readable form copy and paper copy of the Sequence Listing are the same and contain no new matter.

Applicants have now complied with all requirements in the aforementioned Communications and now respectfully request an action on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,



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Page 3, rewrite the paragraph beginning on line 21 as follows:

Accordingly, the present invention provides a novel oligonucleotide primer for phosphotidyl inositol in *B. cereus* said primer comprising

PI - 1 (F) 5' AGTATGGGGAATGAG 3' (SEQ ID NO: 1)

PI - 2 (R) 5' ACAATTTTCCCACGA 3' (SEQ ID NO: 2)

Page 3, rewrite the paragraph beginning on line 25 as follows:

The present invention also refers to method for the detection of *B. cereus* in foods said method comprising using primers specific for phosphotidyl inositol gene in *B. cereus* in a mixed microflora, said primers comprising

PI - 1 (F) 5' AGTATGGGGAATGAG 3' (SEQ ID NO: 1)

PI - 2 (R) 5' ACAATTTTCCCACGA 3' (SEQ ID NO: 2)

Page 5, rewrite the paragraph beginning on line 2 as follows:

Oligonucleotide primers for phosphotidyl inositol gene of *B. cereus* were designated based on the gene sequence (M 30809) using the software programme Primer 3.0. This primer set amplifies a 342 base pair (bp) fragment of the gene, the sequence of which is given below. Sterilization of media and other solutions was achieved by autoclaving for 20 min at 121°C.

PI - 1 (F) 5' AGTATGGGGAATGAG 3' (SEQ ID NO: 1)

PI - 2 (R) 5' ACAATTTTCCCACGA 3' (SEQ ID NO: 2)

Page 6, rewrite the paragraph beginning on line 16 as follows:

Oligonucleotide primers for phosphotidyl inositol gene of *B. cereus* were designated based on the gene sequence (M 30809) using the software programme Primer 3.0. This primer set amplifies a 342 base pair (bp) fragment of the gene, the sequence of which is given below. Sterilization of media and other solutions was achieved by autoclaving for 20

min at 121°C.

PI - 1 (F) 5' AGTATGGGGAATGAG 3' (SEQ ID NO: 1)

PI - 2 (R) 5' ACAATTTTCCCACGA 3' (SEQ ID NO: 2)